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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

EDUCATION AND MEDIA

CHARLESTON, IL--Fourteen school administrators and media representatives will serve as panelists at the first Educators and Media conference at Eastern Illinois University Friday, Feb. 7.

The conference will focus on the problems and common goals of public school educators and the reporters, editors, and news directors who cover education.

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The first session, from 9 to 10:45 a.m., is titled "They Don't Understand Us" and will give panelists the chance to air their experiences. Panelists include Bob Best, publisher of the Sullivan News-Progress; Leonard Burns, superintendent of Urbana schools; Jack Keefe, news director of WICD-TV in Champaign; John Quick, principal, Taylorsville, Ind.; and Dick Schneider, reporter/editor, Danville Commercial-News.

A panel on "Trying Times," from 10:30 to 11:45 a.m., will focus on communicating changes in school finance and reform. Panelists include Bob Hickman, superintendent of Effingham community schools; Ron Ingram, reporter for the Decatur Herald and Review; Bill Lair, managing editor of the Charleston Times-Courier; and Sam McGowen, superintendent of Paris Union School District 95.

Luncheon speaker will be James Ward, associate professor and associate dean of administrative and research services of the College of Education, University of Illinois, Champaign-Urbana.

In a final session from 1:30 to 2:45 p.m., panelists will discuss "Building Trust" between educators and the media. On the panel will be Bob Boyd, chair of educational administration at Indiana State University; Nancy Garrett, reporter for the Paris Beacon-News; Nanette Mellen, assistant principal of Danville High School; and Kurt Sweeney, news director of WTHI-TV, Terre Haute.

All sessions will be held in the Charleston-Mattoon Room of Eastern's University Union. The registration fee of \$20 includes lunch. Registration can be made through the School of Adult and Continuing Education at 581-5114.

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EIU conference sponsors include the Department of Educational Administration, Department of Journalism, College of Education and WEIU FM and TV. Other sponsors are Lakeview College of Nursing in Danville and Indiana State University's Department of Educational Administration.